

## **Request for Wildlife Board Action to Extend the Paunsaugunt, Johnson Canyon Antlerless Deer Hunt**

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### **Requested Action:**

**Season extension within the original hunt boundary.**

**Extended open hunt period to run from November 7-17, 2008.**

### **Rationale:**

The Division of Wildlife Resources is requesting a season extension on the 2008 Paunsaugunt, Johnson Canyon antlerless deer hunt (Hunt #110), in response to low deer numbers within the hunt boundaries during late summer. This hunt occurred from August 1-15, and we received numerous complaints from hunters that were unable to locate deer. Few, if any, deer were taken by hunters. A season extension through reopening the season from November 7 - 17, 2008 should help us to achieve sufficient harvest to reduce depredation complaints.

This antlerless hunt was designed to reduce deer depredation on agricultural crops within the hunt boundary, but it was scheduled too early in the fall to be productive. Deer use high elevations surrounding the Johnson Canyon hunt boundary during the summer months, and then move into the hunt area to use lower elevations and agricultural lands by late fall. Because the deer population on this unit is above the management objective, the antlerless harvest from this hunt will help to meet the Division's deer population goals. There were 50 permits allotted for this hunt, and we are requesting that all hunters holding valid (unfilled) 2008 hunt permits for Hunt #110 be allowed to hunt during the November 7 - 17 hunting period, within the original hunt boundary described in the 2008 antlerless addendum.